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June 23, 2021

Ms. Karen Barber, Esq.
280 State Drive, NOB 2 North
Waterbury, VT 05671**RE: Docket No. GMCB-002-21con, Construction of Secure Residential Treatment Program for individuals requiring residential treatment program services for mental health conditions. Project cost: \$21,900,521.**

Dear Ms. Barber:

Thank you for your response to the second set of questions for the above referenced project. As we require additional information to complete our review, please respond to the following questions.

1. In the DMH June 4 response to Architectural Question 3 (PDF p. 23) it is stated that: “The central heating and cooling plants shall consist of closed-loop geothermal system interconnected with (2) 40-ton water to water heat pumps. The water to water heat pump system would be located on site and would be capable of providing 100% of the chilled and heating hot water to the space all through an electric based source. *The natural gas boiler* would be located in the mechanical room and would be utilized *for snowmelt operation only.*” (emphasis added).

However, under Plumbing (PDF pg. 25), the response states that the domestic hot water system shall be supported from 120-gallon gas fired water heaters, equivalent to the AO Smith BTH-300.”

- a. **Please clarify the respective functions of the closed loop geothermal system and the gas fired water heaters.**
2. Regarding the comment that the building will have a gas-fired boiler for snow melting.
 - a. **Please confirm whether or not the gas-fired boiler for snow melting mentioned on page 23 will be tied into the DHW gas-fired heating or the central heating in any way.**



- b. **Please confirm that the snow melt system meets the building energy code requirements as reflected below:**
 - **C403.12.2 Snow- and ice-melt system controls.** Snow and ice-melting systems shall include automatic controls configured to shut off the system when the outdoor temperature is above 40°F (4°C) and the slab temperature as measured not less than 2 inches below the surface is 50°F (10°C).
3. EVT's letter on June 4 PDF pg. 57 says: "This all electric system aligns with the State's Comprehensive Energy Plan's goal of reducing dependence in fossil fuels and a move to building electrification."
- a. **Please explain the characterization of the "all electric system" given the incorporation of gas fueled boilers and hot water heaters.**
 - b. **What kind of appliances will be installed in the kitchen? Are electric induction stoves currently specified? If not, what measures are being taken regarding energy recovery and ventilation.**

In responding, restate the question in bold font and respond in unbolded font. Send an electronic copy to me at donna.jerry@vermont.gov and one hard copy (three-hole punched) with a Verification Under Oath to my attention at the Green Mountain Care Board, 144 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont 05602.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 802-760-8162.

Sincerely,

s/ Donna Jerry
Senior Health Policy Analyst
Green Mountain Care Board

cc. Laura Beliveau
Staff Attorney

